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Martin is at work upon a picture of the "Lower Saranac, Adirondacks," which, judging from its present appearance, promises to be entirely different in style and treatment from any of that gentleman's former efforts.

Whittredge is painting a view of the Prairie near Denver, which, although in a very unfinished condition at present, gives promise of being a fine picture.

Gignoux has just finished a strong picture of the "Jung Frau," and is now engaged upon a sunrise effect, which is really beautiful, a wild Adirondack lake, over which hang the heavy mists of morning, the sun struggling through the clouds, dispelling the fog, and casting a golden radiance over the brilliant autumn landscape.

Jerome Thompson is at work upon an attractive prairie picture, in which he has successfully reproduced the brilliancy of flower and foliage, for which the great West is so noted.

Fredericks is painting an ideal portrait, full of sentiment and poetry, and, moreover, excellent in color and treatment.

Hows is at work on a picture of the "Lower Ausable Lake, Adirondacks," a strong, luminous and atmospheric landscape, giving with great fidelity the effect of the late autumn.

Colman has nearly finished a beautiful landscape of Westchester County scenery. The sun is almost set, and the long shadows of the trees are cast upon the ground, while over the line of distant hills the moon is rising, and casts its light upon the waters of the Hudson, of which we just catch a faint glimpse, Mr. Colman has treated his subject with great originality and power, giving us a picture thoroughly admirable in every respect.

Brevoort has an excellent landscape, near Farmington, Ct., fresh, crisp, atmospheric, and brimful of Nature, and the pure air of the country.

J. D. Smilie has on his easel an attractive little picture of "The Hudson, near Hyde Park," and his brother, Geo. H. Smilie, has nearly completed a view of the "Catskill Clove," which is marked by great finish, and elaboration of detail, while the color is rich, truthful, and effective.

Jas. Hart has under way a landscape which promises to be one of his greatest efforts. A storm is coming up, and the black clouds are lowering over the landscape, the wind is whistling through the trees, which bend submissively before the fierce blast, a mass of cattle, alarmed by the rolling thunder, have rushed in affright from a neighboring brook, and stand confronting the approaching storm with terrified look and action; over all we see that almost midnight darkness which invariably precedes a thunder storm, we look into the mass of black clouds, and endeavor to pierce the obscurity; we feel the cold wind, and can almost hear the lowing of the affrighted cattle, so admirably has Mr. Hart succeeded in catching the full sentiment, meaning, and grandeur of his subject. Here and there we find a recollection of Trayon, but the mass of the picture is marked by originality, and breadth of power and treatment.

Rosenberg is at work on a large picture of "Long Branch by Moonlight," in which he is succeeding admirably in giving the clear, cold

effect of moonlight, while the figures introduced are marked by great variety, and originality of action, as well as strong individualization of character.

Wagner, among many other flower pictures, has an excellent study of "Pitcher Plants," good in color and design.

Burling has nearly finished a spirited picture of the "Saut St. Marie," which is boldly and strongly painted, while the effect of the stormy sky, and the rush and dash of the water are rendered with great power.

Ward, whose design for the Shakspeare monument has, by the way, been accepted by the committee, is at work on designs for a monument to be erected in Boston, commemorative of the introduction of the use of Ether as an Anæsthetic. On the summit is to be a colossal figure of the Good Samaritan, while around the base are to be bas-reliefs showing the advantage of the discovery. Two of these Mr. Ward has finished; one representing a scene on the battle-field, another a view in an hospital; in both he has been wonderfully successful, giving strong, and effective groups, marked by great character, and originality of conception.

R. L. Pyne has just completed a large landscape of the Catskill Mountains. The spectator is supposed to be standing on the North Mountain, looking out upon the Catskill Lakes, the sun is setting, and almost hides in its splendor the distant hills. In the immediate foreground Mr. Pyne has not entirely succeeded, but in the sky, and distance, his efforts have been crowned with great success, there being in them a richness of color which is thoroughly admirable.

Mr. Pyne evidently paints with a feeling for his subject, and, although, in his pictures there are faults, there is still a something which commands admiration and attention, you can see they are the children of his brain as well as hand, and as such must always call for commendation.

PALETTE.

#### ROSCIUS

Quintus Roscius, a Roman actor, became so celebrated upon the stage, that every actor of superior eminence to his contemporaries, has been since called the Roscius.

It is said that he was not without some personal defects, particularly his eyes were so distorted that he always appeared upon the stage with a mask; but the Romans frequently constrained him to take it off, and overlooked the deformities of his face that they might the better hear his elegant pronunciation.

In private he was so much esteemed as to be elevated to the rank of Senator.

When falsely accused, Cicero, who had been one of his pupils, undertook his defence and cleared him of the malevolent aspersions of his enemies, in an eloquent oration extant in his works.

Roscius is said to have written a treatise, which has not escaped the wreck of time, comparing, with success and erudition, the profession of the orator with that of the comedian.

His daily pay for acting is said to have been 1,000 denarii, or £32 6s. English money, though

Cicero makes his annual income amount to the enormous sum of £47,434 10s.

Dr. Burney observes that there are several passages in Cicero concerning Roscius, which if the ancient actors, Romans as well as Greeks, did not declaim in musical notes, would be wholly unintelligible.

He tells us (de Orat) that Roscius had always said, when age should diminish his powers, he would not abandon the stage, but would proportion his performances to his strength, and make music conform to the weakness of his voice; which really happened, for the same author informs us that in his old age he sung in a lower pitch of voice, and made the Tibicines play slower.

As there were combats, or contests, established by the ancients for the voice, as well as for other parts of the gymnastice, those who taught the management of the voice were called phonascei, and under their instructions were put all those who were destined to be orators, singers and comedians.

Roscius had an academy for declamation, at which he taught several persons preparatory to their speaking in public, or appearing upon the stage.

These are proofs sufficient of the dramatic declamation of the ancients being uttered in musical tones, agreeing with those of the musical instruments by which they were accompanied.

#### PARIS GOSSIP.

The Louvre has purchased six frescoes by Lutin, price \$10,000.

In a drawer of an obscure inn of Draguignan a visitor recently found this note: "I passed a night in this inn on the ———, 1851, flying my enemies' persecution. I met at the table d'hôte a pensioned officer who asserted he knew me. Bragging humbug! G. Garibaldi." This was just when Garibaldi had been obliged to fly Rome and when he was attempting to get to America. His name was on every tongue. An officer, not knowing he was present, boasted he knew him, and probably gave him a bad character. Garibaldi dared not to contradict him, but left this note in a writing desk in the inn, hoping it would be discovered in a few days after his departure.

At the last masked ball at the Grand Opera, a gentleman asked a pierrette: "Will you allow me to call on you?" Her reply was: "Sir, you insult me; here is my card."

In 1866 there was 1500 failures in Paris; in 1865 there was 1634.

In England, there is 1 murder to every 678,000 souls; in Holland, 1 to every 163,000; in Prussia, 1 to every 100,000; in Austria, 1 to every 77,000; Spain, 1 to every 4113; and in the Roman States, 1 murder to every 750 souls.

There have been two severe earthquakes in Algeria. It was felt in Belgium.

At the close of the last masked ball of the Grand Opera, the mummers found to their amazement the streets covered with sleet. Not a carriage of any description was to be had. The most elegant dominos were obliged to return home on